

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph at page 43, line 7 as follows:

The same TMA that was used for podocalyxin staining has been previously stained for a number of markers that have prognostic significance for breast cancer outcome (Makretsov et al., Submitted and see www.pathology.ubc.ca/immuno). Thus, the inventors were able to perform a multi-variant Cox regression analysis in which high podocalyxin expression was compared with 6 other breast cancer-associated markers (Table 2). As expected, nodal status and HER2 overexpression were independent markers of poor outcome, which is an internal validation of the array analysis. Therefore, the fact that high podocalyxin expression on its own was associated with increased relative risk ($p < 0.006$) indicates that it is an independent prognostic indicator of poor outcome. Interestingly, however, a Pearson correlation analysis of the same data indicated that high podocalyxin expression positively correlated with p53 mutations, Estrogen receptor loss, and increased tumor grade (Table 3; all p values < 0.01). Thus, the data suggest that podocalyxin is an independent marker of metastatic tumors.